

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2744
USMISSION GENEVA
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 3037

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO ELAB NL
SUBJECT: ILO 1978 CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 127537

1. PER REFTTEL, REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE MADE REQUIRED DEMARCHE
JUNE 2 TO ILO AFFAIRS OFFICERS SOHNS, MINISTRY OF SOCIAL
AFFAIRS, AND MS MAIER, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
SOHNS AND MAIER, BOTH OF WHOM WILL BE IN ATTENDANCE AT
GENEVA, LISTENED POLITELY AND PROMISED TO INFORM OTHER
MEMBERS OF DUTCH DELEGATION OF US VIEWPOINTS AND CONCERNS.

2. WITH REGARD TO THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON
THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS, SOHNS REMARKED THAT THE
CHANCES OF THE CONFERENCE RECOGNIZING THE REPORT ARE FAIR--
PARTICULARLY SINCE IT NOW HAS THE OPTION OF "TAKEING NOTE OF"
RATHER THAN FORMALLY "APPROVING" THE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

3. THE DUTCH REGARD THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
INVESTIGATING ALLEGATIONS OF DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN THE
ISRAELI OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AS - &99\$, SOLID REPORT. THEY
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WOULD PREFER TO HAVE IT DISCUSSED ONLY IN THE COMMITTEE ON
RESOLUTIONS, BUR MS MAIER IS OF THE OPINION THAT IT MAY COME
UP IN THE PLENARY, DESPITE WHAT SHE UNDERSTANDS ARE ARAB
ASSURANCES TO THE CONTRARY.

4. BOTH MAIER AND SOHNS UNDERSTAND AND, TO SOME EXTENT, SHARE
OUR CONCERNS REGARDING THE PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE STRUCTURE OF

THE GOVERNING BODY. THEY SEE SUCH CHANGE AS AN UNFORTUNATE
BUT NECESSARY COUNTERPART TO ANY ACTION ON ARTICLE 17.
WITH REGARD TO THE LATTER, THEY SEE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE
AS VIRTUALLY
COMPLETE. ON THE STRUCTURAL SIDE, THE GON WILL GO ALONG
RELUCTANTLY WITH AN EXPANSION OF THE GOVERNMENT GROUP OF THE
GB TO 52 OR 56 IF NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE THE AFRICANS.
MRS MAIER FELT THAT US CONCERN OVER POSSIBLE PARALLEL STRUCTURAL
CHANGES IN THE EMPLOYER AND WORKER GROUPS IS EXAGGERATED.
SOHNS SAID THAT, WITHIN THE PROJECTED EUROPEAN REGIONAL
ALLOTMENT OF GB GOVERNMENT GROUP SEATS, IT HAS BEEN IN-
FORMALLY AGREED THAT 10 WILL BE RESERVED FOR WESTERN EUROPE,
5 FOR EASTERN EUROPE. THIS, REPORTEDLY, IS (AND MAY REMAIN)
AN INFORMAL GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT.
BROWN

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